



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

September 9, 2016

To interested providers of Outpatient Therapy Services:

Fairfax County's Children's Behavioral Health System of Care (BHSOC) Office invites you to participate in an exciting and innovative pilot initiative offering short term behavioral health (STBH) services to youth in ten selected high school communities. If this pilot is successful the project will continue to expand to more high school communities.

In recent years, Fairfax County has experienced an increase in youth deaths by suicide in our community. There has also emerged a trend of numerous challenges and barriers in connecting youth in a timely way to access and utilize mental health and/or substance use treatment. These barriers include: difficulty identifying an available provider who accepts their insurance and who is in close proximity to their home, transportation difficulties, high insurance co-payments and/or high insurance deductibles.

In an effort to address the above mentioned concerns, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors allocated funding to develop initiatives such as this to address the timely need for behavioral health services for youth in our community. We want to develop a public-private partnership with interested clinician providers in our community to be a part of the solution to address the unmet treatment needs of our youth. We are asking interested potential providers to commit to serving one referred youth at any given time, to set up the initial appointment within three to five business days of the initial call, and to provide up to eight counseling sessions, funded completely through the BHSOC Office. School social workers and school psychologists from the selected high schools will be the primary referral source. They will have completed their own screening process for referral and assist the youth and family to successfully connect to one of the STBH providers. If needed, a review of transportation options will also be discussed with the youth and family to include the availability of free Fairfax Connector Bus Service and possibly taxi service.

Clinician providers will be asked to complete some limited paperwork, including an initial assessment, statement of understanding and discharge summary. One clinical screening tool to be completed by the youth at intake will be required. In order to meet this requirement, the clinician provider will need to take an online training session prior to administering the paper and pencil instrument to the youth. Access to this online training will be arranged by the BHSOC Office and clinician providers will be reimbursed for one hour of their time to complete this training. While the screening tool will typically be completed by the youth themselves, they will need some guidance by the clinician provider in explaining the instrument. It is also anticipated that some youth may need a transition service of connecting youth to longer term counseling or other community resources upon completion of the STBH Service for Youth. The BHSOC Office will work with clinician providers to assist in that process.

Participating clinician providers are also asked to propose a rate for their services that takes into account that this is a 100% County funded public-private partnership, and developed in response to a pressing need for timely behavioral health interventions for our youth. In an effort to best utilize the County's limited funding dedicated to this pilot, we are asking that you offer an hourly rate that is potentially

sustainable and helps us to reach as many at-risk youth as possible. We look forward to the possibility of working with you in this new initiative to bring timely and much needed sort term behavioral health service to more youth in our community.

To be considered, please go to the following website for more details about our solicitation:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/admin/cm/Solicitations.htm>.

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For information, call the SOC Office at 703-324-5535 or TTY 711.

Fairfax-Falls Church Behavioral Health System of Care for Children, Youth and Families

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